

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. through 55. Canceled.

56. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an active agent comprising a protein or enzyme topically, comprising:

providing a topical preparation, wherein said topical preparation comprises an internal phase and an external phase; wherein:

said internal phase is dispersed within said external phase;

said internal phase comprises at least one hydrophilic carrier, at least one hydrophilic component, and at least one active agent; and

said external phase comprises a silicone matrix;

placing said topical preparation in contact with the skin of a patient such that said active agent is released from said silicone matrix topically onto said skin of said patient.

57. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said skin includes necrotic tissues and said active agent is selected such that said active agent ~~may remove~~ removes said necrotic tissues upon release from said silicone matrix.

58. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said active agent is selected such that said active agent ~~may cleanse~~ cleanses a wound on said skin of said patient upon release from said silicone matrix.

59. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said active agent is selected such that said active agent ~~may self-sterilize~~ sterilizes a wound on said skin of said patient upon release from said silicone matrix.

60. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said active agent is selected such that said active agent ~~may provide~~ generates peroxide, peracid, or activated oxygen species to provide anti-infection properties on said skin of said patient upon release from said silicone matrix.

61. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said active agent is selected such that said active agent ~~may accelerate~~ accelerates healing of a wound on said skin of said patient upon release from said silicone matrix.

62. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said silicone matrix is selected to have a cross-link density suitable for providing a desired rate of active agent release from said silicone matrix.

63. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said internal phase further comprises a hydrophilic component, and wherein said hydrophilic component is selected such that said active agent is released from said silicone matrix at a desired rate.

64. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said topical preparation comprises a patch having a thickness, and wherein said thickness of said patch is selected such that said active agent is released from said silicone matrix at a desired rate.

65. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said topical preparation has an occlusivity to air, and wherein said occlusivity to air of said topical preparation is selected such that said active agent is released from said silicone matrix at a desired rate.

66. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein:

said topical preparation has an occlusivity to fluid;

said skin includes necrotic tissues and said active agent is selected such that said active agent ~~may remove~~ removes said necrotic tissues upon release from said silicone matrix;

said occlusivity to fluid promotes a moist environment that allows swelling of necrotic tissues covered by said topical preparation such that said necrotic ~~tissue becomes~~ tissues become swollen; and

said active agent released from said silicone matrix selectively removes said swollen necrotic tissues.

67. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in 66 further comprising:

providing a second topical preparation comprising an internal phase and external phase, wherein:

said internal phase is dispersed within said external phase;

said internal phase comprises at least one hydrophilic carrier and at least one second active agent comprising a protein or enzyme selected such that said second active agent inhibits said active agent selected to remove necrotic tissue;

said external phase comprises a silicone matrix; and

said silicone matrix comprises a silicone adhesive; and

placing said second topical preparation on said skin of said patient around a wound containing necrotic tissues on said skin[[:]] and adhering said first topical preparation over said wound by contacting said first topical preparation to said second topical preparation, wherein said skin of said patient around said wound is protected from said active agent selected to remove said necrotic tissues.

68. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said at least one hydrophilic carrier comprises polypropylene glycol.

69. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein said at least one active agent comprises at least one hydrolase enzyme.

70. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 69 wherein said hydrolase enzyme is selected from lipases and proteases.

71. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 70 wherein said protease comprises LG12.

72. (New) A method of providing an active agent comprising a protein or enzyme topically to remove necrotic tissue, comprising:

providing a first topical preparation, wherein said first topical preparation comprises an internal phase and an external phase; wherein:

said internal phase is dispersed within said external phase; said internal phase comprises at least one hydrophilic carrier and at least one active agent; and said external phase comprises a silicone matrix;

providing a second topical preparation comprising an internal phase and external phase, wherein:

said internal phase is dispersed within said external phase; said internal phase comprises at least one hydrophilic carrier and at least one second active agent comprising a protein or enzyme selected such that said second active agent inhibits said active agent selected to remove necrotic tissue; said external phase comprises a silicone matrix comprising a silicone adhesive;

placing said topical preparation in contact with a wound having necrotic tissue on the skin of a patient such that said active agent is released from said silicone matrix topically onto said wound; and

placing said second topical preparation on said skin of said patient around said wound, said second topical preparation adhering said first topical preparation over said wound, wherein said skin of said patient around said wound is protected from said active agent selected to remove said necrotic tissue.